

Applicants: Howard J. Worman and Naoto Mamiya
Serial No: 09/407,430
Filed: September 29, 1999
Page: 2

Please amend claim 44 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c). The amended claims are presented below and the amendments to the claims are indicated in the marked-up set of claims attached hereto.

D¹
44. (Amended) A method of inhibiting attachment of hepatitis C virus onto a cell, which comprises contacting the cell with an effective amount of an Eo protein having amino acids 1-120 of SEQ ID NO:1 to the subject, wherein the Eo protein is capable of inhibiting the attachment of hepatitis C virus onto the cell by specifically binding to the hepatitis C virus envelope E2 protein. E

Please add new claims 50-56 as follows:

50. (New) A method of modifying the activity of the hepatitis C virus envelope E2 protein, which comprises contacting the E2 protein with an Eo protein having amino acids 1-120 of SEQ ID NO:1.

D²
51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the hepatitis C virus envelope E2 protein comprises amino acids having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

E
52. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the hepatitis C virus envelope E2 protein comprises amino acids having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

53. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the Eo protein comprises amino acids having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1.

Applicants: Howard J. Worman and Naoto Mamiya
Serial No: 09/407,430
Filed: September 29, 1999
Page: 3

Da
cont.
54. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the cell is a liver cell.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the liver cell is a human liver cell.

E
56. (New) An isolated complex between the hepatitis C virus envelope E2 protein and an Eo protein having amino acids 1-120 of SEQ ID NO:1.
